

10:45–11:00 a.m.

COFFEE BREAK

Diker Pavilion Lobby

11:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

SESSION FOUR

***Indigenous Aesthetic Paradigms:
Community and the Artist***

Chair: Robert Jahnke » Te Pūtahi-a-Toi,
the School of Māori Studies

Miranda Belarde-Lewis »

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

A:shiwī Aesthetics: Defining Ourselves

Anna-Marie White, curator »

NELSON, NEW ZEALAND

Good Māori, Bad Māori:

Connoisseurship and

Contemporary Māori art

Natalie Ball » CHILOQUIN, OREGON

Circa Indian

Nicholas Galanin » SITKA, ALASKA

I Killed an Indian

1:00–1:45 p.m.

RESPONDENT AND DISCUSSION

Jolene Rickard » CORNELL UNIVERSITY

1:45 p.m.

CLOSING REMARKS

2:00–3:00 p.m.

RECEPTION

Diker Pavilion Lobby

SATURDAY, MAY 7

2:00 p.m.

POST-SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

***Seeing Indigenous: Indigenous
Art and Media Arts on Film***

Fred Meyers » NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

Stephen Gilchrist » NATIONAL GALLERY
OF VICTORIA

Mario A. Caro

[Diker Pavilion]



CONTEMPORARY NATIVE ARTS SYMPOSIUM



Funding for the *Essentially Indigenous* Symposium generously provided by:



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ESSENTIALLY Indigenous?



Smithsonian
National Museum of the American Indian

Thursday, May 5 – Friday, May 6, 2011

Diker Pavilion, George Gustav Heye Center
National Museum of the American Indian
One Bowling Green, New York City

www.AmericanIndian.si.edu/symposia

IMAGE CREDIT: NICHOLAS GALANIN, *TSU HÉIDEI SHUGAXTUTAAN I* (2006), VIDEO STILL.

Essentially Indigenous?: Contemporary Native Arts Symposium

In the past, many discussions about Native art have focused mostly on the identity of the artist. While Indian identity has a place in the ongoing dialogue about Native art, our intention for this symposium is to break new ground by focusing on the art. What is it about a work of art by a Native artist that makes it Native? Iconography, subject matter, or aesthetic sensibility? Is it a relationship to land or ties to traditional art forms? Is there something essential we can or should define?

Symposium Schedule

THURSDAY, MAY 5

8:15–9:00 a.m.

REGISTRATION

Diker Pavilion Lobby

9:00 a.m.

WELCOME AND OPENING REMARKS

Kathleen Ash-Milby » NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN INDIAN

Mario A. Caro » MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

9:15 a.m.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The Aesthetic of Disappearance

Robert Houle, artist, scholar, and curator » TORONTO, CANADA

10:00–10:45 a.m.

SESSION ONE

Essential Images: On the Critical Production and Reception of Contemporary Native Art

Chair: Mario A. Caro

David Garneau » UNIVERSITY OF REGINA

Necessary Essentialism and Contemporary Aboriginal Art

Will Wilson » SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO
Indigenous Visuality as Strategic Essentialism within Contemporary Indigenous Art Practice

Andrea Geyer » NEW SCHOOL
Spiral Lands: Un-learning Visual Regimes

Devorah Romanek » BRITISH MUSEUM
Re-framed Essentialism: Native American Artists and Historic Images

10:45–11:00 a.m.

COFFEE BREAK

Diker Pavilion Lobby

11:00 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

SESSION ONE CONTINUED

12:15–1:30 p.m.

LUNCH BREAK—ON YOUR OWN

1:30–3:15 p.m.

SESSION TWO

Essential Place: The Relationship between Native Art and Place

Co-Chairs: Kathleen Ash-Milby and Gerald McMaster, Art Gallery of Ontario

Gloria Bell » SCHOOL FOR ADVANCED RESEARCH

Meditations on Place: Métis Artistic Expressions in Virtual and Physical Landscapes

Suzanne Morrisette » ONTARIO COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN UNIVERSITY
Stories of Place and Knowledge: Writing Home and RESERVE(d)

Lisa Seppi » STATE UNIVERSITY OF NEW YORK AT OSWEGO

Essential Difference? Or Situational Essence? The Genealogy of Land, Abstraction, and Spirituality in the Art of Kay WalkingStick

Julie Nagam » ONTARIO COLLEGE OF ART & DESIGN UNIVERSITY
(Re) imaging the Living Archive through the Performed Interventions of Rebecca Belmore

3:15–3:30 p.m.

COFFEE BREAK

Diker Pavilion Lobby

3:30–4:15 p.m.

RESPONDENT AND DISCUSSION

Ute Meta Bauer » MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

5:30 p.m.

CURATOR'S TOUR

Tipi: Heritage of the Great Plains » BROOKLYN MUSEUM
(Free for symposium attendees)

FRIDAY, MAY 6

8:15–9:00 a.m.

REGISTRATION

Diker Pavilion Lobby

9:00 a.m.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kathleen Ash-Milby

9:15–10:45 a.m.

SESSION THREE

Blood Memory: Indigenous Genealogies and Imagined Truths

Chair: Nancy Marie Mithlo » University of Wisconsin-Madison

Dylan Miner » MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY
Against Hybridity: An Indigenist Provocation on Contemporary Art

Sean Teuton » UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
Native Literature, Native Art, and How There Might Be Memory in the Blood

Rachel Harris » CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY
Of God, Guns, and Government: Reforming the Non-Inuit Subject Position in the Work of Annie Pootoogook and the Kinngait Avant-Garde